

APPLICANT(S): STEINER, Mitchell S. et al.
SERIAL NO.: 09/707,766
FILED: November 8, 2000
Page 2

B1
conced

6,413,535; which is a continuation-in-part application of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/436,208, filed November 8, 1999, which is a continuation-in-part application of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/306,958, filed on May 7, 1999, now U.S. Patent No. 6,265,448, which claims priority of Provisional Application No. 60/084,602, filed May 7, 1998, which are hereby incorporated by reference.--

REMARKS

The present response is intended to be fully responsive to all points of objection and/or rejection raised by the Examiner and is believed to place the application in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made by the current amendment. The attached pages are captioned "Version with Markings to Show Changes Made".

Status of Claims

Claims 26-59 are pending in the application. Claims 26-59 have been rejected.

Remarks to the Specification

As per the Examiner's request, Applicants have added a Cross-Reference to the Specification.

Double Patenting Rejections

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 26-59 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as allegedly being unpatentable over claims 1-19 of US Patent 6,265,448, over claims 1-34 of US Patent 6,413,533, over claims 1-17 of US Patent 6,413,534, over claims 1-17 of US Patent 6,410,943 and over claims 1-20 of US Patent 6,413,535. Applicants note that the asserted rejection of US Patent 6,410,943 should actually be US Patent 6,410,043. In response, Applicants attach hereto a terminal disclaimer for each